

## Appendix E: The NAL Thesaurus (NALT)

## **History of the NAL Thesaurus**

2002:

The National Agricultural Library (NAL) published the first edition of the NAL Agricultural Thesaurus on January 1, 2002. The first edition contained over 56,000 terms (38,448 valid descriptors and 17,645 additional references or lead-in terms).

2003:

NAL published the 2003 edition of the NAL Agricultural Thesaurus on January 1, 2003. The 2003 edition was the second edition of the NAL Agricultural Thesaurus. The 2003 edition contained nearly 58,300 terms (39,172 descriptors and 19,039 lead-in terms). Descriptors in the subject areas of youth development, family studies and consumer science were expanded through a cooperative effort with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service.

2004:

NAL published the 2004 edition of the NAL Agricultural Thesaurus (NALT) on January 1, 2004. The 2004 edition was the third edition of the NAL Agricultural Thesaurus. That edition contained approximately 62,500 terms with vocabulary in the subject area of ornamental horticulture expanded that year through a cooperative effort with AgNIC partner Randy Heatley at Michigan State University. The 2004 edition contained 477 scope notes and 1586 definitions of terminology.

2005:

NAL published the 2005 edition of the NAL Agricultural Thesaurus (NALT) on January 1, 2005. The 2005 edition was the fourth edition of the NAL Agricultural Thesaurus. That edition contained approximately 63,800 terms, 480 scope notes and 1640 definitions. Invasive species vocabulary was expanded that year, with an emphasis on biological nomenclature. Enzyme nomenclature was reviewed intensively and all Enzyme Classification numbers updated and hierarchies aligned with the current recommendation of the Nomenclature Committee of the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (IUBMB). The taxonomy and nomenclature of Salmonella was revised and updated.

2006:

The 2006 edition is the fifth edition of the NAL Agricultural Thesaurus. Terminology associated with herbal dietary supplements was expanded this edition, including botanical nomenclature, common names and bioactive compounds. The taxonomic classification of insects and other arthropods was reviewed and updated according to the recommendation of the Entomological Society of America. The NALT contains over 66,400 terms, 520 scope notes and 2038 definitions. Approximately 400 new definitions were added this edition.